

Public health dimension of the world drug problem: WHO documents and resources



**World Health
Organization**



United Nations, World Health Assembly and Executive Board documents

United Nations General Assembly Special Session 2016 on the world drug problem outcome document (A/S-30/L.1) “Our joint commitment to effectively addressing and countering the world drug problem”

<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N16/105/72/PDF/N1610572.pdf?OpenElement>

Report by the Secretariat to the World Health Assembly 69th session (A69/12) “Public health dimension of the world drug problem including in the context of the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on the World Drug Problem held in April 2016”

[Link TBA](#)

Report by the Secretariat to Executive Board 138th session (EB138/11) “Public health dimension of the world drug problem including in the context of the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the World Drug Problem, to be held in 2016”

http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/EB138/B138_11-en.pdf

1990 World Health Assembly resolution (WHA43.11) “Reduction of demand for illicit drugs”

http://who.int/substance_abuse/en/WHA43.11.pdf?ua=1

Drug use: prevention, treatment and care

Relevant WHO websites

WHO Substance Abuse:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/en/

WHO Mental Health:

http://www.who.int/mental_health/en/

WHO Mental Health Gap Action Programme:

http://www.who.int/mental_health/mhgap/en/

Resources and documents

International standards for the treatment of drug use disorders. Vienna/Geneva, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime/World Health Organization, 2016

https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CND/CND_Sessions/CND_59/ECN72016_CRP4_V1_601463.pdf

The health and social effects of non-medical cannabis use. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2016

http://who.int/substance_abuse/publications/msb_cannabis_report.pdf

Mental Health Gap Action Programme (mhGAP) Guideline for Mental, Neurological and Substance use Disorders. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2015

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/204132/1/9789241549417_eng.pdf?ua=1

WHO's role, mandate and activities to counter the world drug problem. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2015

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/drug_role_mandate.pdf?ua=1

Guidelines for the identification and management of substance use and substance use disorders in pregnancy. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2014

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/107130/1/9789241548731_eng.pdf?ua=1

Guidelines on community management of opioid overdose. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2014

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/137462/1/9789241548816_eng.pdf?ua=1&ua=1

Opioid overdose: preventing and reducing opioid overdose mortality. Vienna/Geneva, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime/World Health Organization, 2013

<https://www.unodc.org/docs/treatment/overdose.pdf>

Russian version:

https://www.unodc.org/docs/treatment/overdose_russian.pdf

Involvement of nurses and midwives in screening and brief interventions for hazardous and harmful use of alcohol and other psychoactive substances. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2010

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/70480/1/WHO_HRH_HPN_10.6_eng.pdf

mhGAP Intervention Guide for mental, neurological and substance use disorders in non-specialized health settings. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2010

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44406/1/9789241548069_eng.pdf

Arabic, French, Japanese, Portuguese and Spanish versions:

http://www.who.int/mental_health/publications/mhGAP_intervention_guide/en/

Self-help strategies for cutting down or stopping substance use – A guide. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2010

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44322/1/9789241599405_eng.pdf

Spanish version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/activities/assist_selfhelp_spanish.pdf?ua=1

The Alcohol, Smoking, Substance Involvement Screening Test (ASSIST) – Manual for use in primary care. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2010

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44320/1/9789241599382_eng.pdf

Spanish version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/activities/assist_screening_spanish.pdf?ua=1

The ASSIST-linked brief intervention for hazardous and harmful substance use) – Manual for use in primary care. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2010

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44321/1/9789241599399_eng.pdf

Spanish version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/activities/assist_intervention_spanish.pdf?ua=1

Fact sheet: Interpersonal violence and illicit drugs. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2009

http://who.int/violenceprevention/interpersonal_violence_and_illicit_drug_use.pdf?ua=1

**Guidelines for the Psychosocially Assisted Pharmacological Treatment of Opioid Dependence.
Geneva, World Health Organization, 2009**

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/opioid_dependence_guidelines.pdf

Italian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/43948/2/9789241547543_ita.pdf

**Principles of Drug Dependence Treatment. Vienna/Geneva, United Nations Office on Drugs and
Crime/World Health Organization, 2009**

https://www.unodc.org/docs/treatment/Principles_of_Drug_Dependence_Treatment_and_Care.pdf

**Global Initiative on Primary Prevention of Substance Abuse. Vienna/Geneva, United Nations Office
on Drugs and Crime/World Health Organization, 2007**

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/global_initiative_summary_report.pdf

**Basic Principles for Treatment and Psychosocial Support of Drug Dependent People Living with
HIV/AIDS. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2006**

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/basic_principles_drug_hiv.pdf

**Treatment of injecting drug users with HIV/AIDS: promoting access and optimizing service delivery.
Geneva, World Health Organization, 2006**

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/treatment_idus_hiv_aids.pdf

**Substance use among young people in urban environment. Geneva, World Health Organization,
2005**

<http://apps.who.int/iris/handle/10665/43326>

**Neuroscience of psychoactive substance use and dependence. Geneva, World Health Organization,
2004**

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/Neuroscience.pdf

Spanish version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/neuroscience_spanish.pdf?ua=1

Neuroscience of psychoactive substance use and dependence: Summary. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2004

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/Neuroscience_E.pdf?ua=1

Arabic version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/Neuroscience_A.pdf?ua=1

Cambodian version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/neuroscience_summary_cambodian.pdf?ua=1

Chinese version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/Neuroscience_C.pdf?ua=1

French version:

http://www.who.int/entity/substance_abuse/publications/en/Neuroscience_F.pdf?ua=1

Lao version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/neuroscience_summary_lao.pdf?ua=1

Portuguese version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/Neuroscience_P.pdf?ua=1

Spanish version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/Neuroscience_S.pdf?ua=1

Vietnamese version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/neuroscience_summary_vietnamese.pdf?ua=1

Substitution maintenance therapy in the management of opioid dependence and HIV/AIDS prevention. Geneva/Vienna/Geneva, World Health Organization/United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime/United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, 2004

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/PositionPaper_English.pdf

Cambodian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42848/4/9241591153_cam.pdf

Chinese version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42848/2/9241591153_chi.pdf

Lao version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42848/5/9241591153_lao.pdf

Russian version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/PositionPaper_Russian.pdf?ua=1

Vietnamese version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42848/6/9241591153_vie.pdf

The practices and context of pharmacotherapy of opioid dependence in Central and Eastern Europe. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2004

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/68758/1/WHO_MSD_MSB_04.1.pdf

A Report from the WHO Drug Injection Study Phase II. RAR-Review: an international review of rapid assessments conducted on drug use. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2003

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/rar_review.pdf

International guidelines for estimating the costs of substance abuse. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2003

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42603/1/9241545828_eng.pdf

The practices and context of pharmacotherapy of opioid dependence in South-East Asia and Western Pacific regions. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2002

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/activities/pharmacotherapy_of_opioid_dependence_in_south_east_asia_and_western_pacific_regions.pdf

Ecstasy - MDMA and other ring-substituted amphetamines. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2001

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/67297/1/WHO_MSD_MSB_01.3.pdf

What do people think they know about substance dependence. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2001

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/37325-E.pdf

Chinese version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/37325-C.pdf?ua=1

French version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/37325-F.pdf?ua=1

German version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/37325-G.pdf?ua=1

Portuguese version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/37325-P.pdf?ua=1

Russian version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/37325-R.pdf?ua=1

Spanish version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/publications/en/37325-S.pdf?ua=1

Primary Prevention of Substance Abuse: A Facilitator Guide. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2000

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/activities/global_initiative/en/primary_prevention_guide_17.pdf

Primary Prevention of Substance Abuse: A Workbook for Project Operators. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2000

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/activities/global_initiative/en/primary_prevention_17.pdf

Drug and Alcohol Dependence Policies, Legislation and Programmes for Treatment and Rehabilitation. Geneva, World Health Organization, 1999

Chapters 1-7 :

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66271/1/WHO_HSC_SAB_99.10_chap1-7.pdf

Chapters 8-11:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66271/2/WHO_HSC_SAB_99.10_chap8-11.pdf

Chapters 12-15:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66271/3/WHO_HSC_SAB_99.10_chap12-15.pdf

Volatile Solvent Abuse: A global overview. Geneva, World Health Organization, 1999

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/65899/1/WHO_HSC_SAB_99.7.pdf

Young People and Substance Use: A Manual: Create, use and evaluate educational materials and activities. Geneva, World Health Organization, 1999

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/65959/1/WHO_HSC_SAB_99.3.pdf

WHO expert committee on drug dependence: thirtieth report. Geneva, World Health Organization, 1998

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42059/1/9241208732_eng.pdf

Russian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42059/2/WHO_TRS_873_rus.pdf

Health Professional Education on Psychoactive Substance Use Issues. Geneva, World Health Organization, 1996

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/63422/1/WHO_PSA_96.16.pdf

Lexicon of alcohol and drug terms. Geneva, World Health Organization, 1994

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/39461/1/9241544686_eng.pdf

Spanish version:

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/terminology/lexicon_alcohol_drugs_spanish.pdf?ua=1

WHO expert committee on drug dependence: twenty eighth report. Geneva, World Health Organization, 1993

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/37029/1/WHO_TRS_836.pdf

Prevention and management of the harms associated with drug use

Relevant WHO websites

WHO HIV/AIDS:

<http://www.who.int/hiv/en/>

Resources and documents

The Global Health Sector Strategies for HIV, viral hepatitis, STIs, 2016-2021

<http://www.who.int/hiv/strategy2016-2021/en/>

Integrating collaborative TB and HIV services within a comprehensive package of care for people who inject drugs. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2016

http://www.who.int/tb/publications/integrating-collaborative-tb-and-hiv_services_for_pwid/en/

Russian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/204484/5/9789244510223_rus.pdf

HIV and young people who inject drugs. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2015

<http://www.who.int/hiv/pub/toolkits/hiv-young-idu/en/>

Tool to set and monitor targets for HIV prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care for key populations. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2015

<http://www.who.int/hiv/pub/toolkits/kpp-monitoring-tools/en/>

Consolidated guidelines on HIV prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care for key populations. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2014

<http://www.who.int/hiv/pub/guidelines/keypopulations/en/>

Guidelines for the screening, care and treatment of persons with hepatitis C infection. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2014

<http://www.who.int/hepatitis/publications/hepatitis-c-guidelines/en/>

Policy brief: Consolidated guidelines on HIV prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2014

<http://www.who.int/hiv/pub/toolkits/keypopulations/en/>

Guidance on prevention of viral hepatitis B and C among people who inject drugs. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2012

<http://www.who.int/hepatitis/publications/hepatitis-b-c-idu/en/>



**Policy brief: Guidance on prevention of viral hepatitis B and C among people who inject drugs.
Geneva, World Health Organization, 2012**

<http://www.who.int/hepatitis/publications/hepatitis-b-c-idu/en/>

**Technical guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and
care for injecting drug users. Geneva/Vienna/Geneva, World Health Organization/United Nations
Office on Drugs and Crime/United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, 2012**

http://www.who.int/hiv/pub/idu/targets_universal_access/en/

Access to controlled medicines

Relevant WHO websites

WHO Access to Controlled Medicines:

http://www.who.int/medicines/areas/quality_safety/access_Contr_Med/en/

WHO's role under International Drug Control Conventions:

http://www.who.int/medicines/access/controlled-substances/whos_role_international_drug_system_flyer.pdf

WHO Expert Committee on Drug Dependence (ECDD):

<http://www.who.int/medicines/access/controlled-substances/ecdd/en/>

Relevant World Health Assembly resolutions

WHA68.20 “Global burden of epilepsy and the need for coordinated action at the country level to address its health, social and public knowledge implications”

http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA68/A68_R20-en.pdf

WHA68.15 “Strengthening emergency and essential surgical care and anaesthesia as a component of universal health coverage”

http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA68/A68_R15-en.pdf?ua=1

WHA67.19 “Strengthening of palliative care as a component of comprehensive care throughout the life course”

http://apps.who.int/gb/ebwha/pdf_files/WHA67/A67_R19-en.pdf

Resources and documents

WHO expert committee on drug dependence: thirty-seventh report. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2016

http://www.who.int/medicines/access/controlled-substances/ECDD_37th_Report_FINAL_prelayout.pdf?ua=1

WHO Model Lists of Essential Medicines, 2015 update. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2015

<http://www.who.int/medicines/publications/essentialmedicines/en/>



Guide on Estimating Requirements on Substances under International Control. New York/Geneva, United Nations/World Health Organization, 2012

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44859/1/9789241503280_eng.pdf

Arabic version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44859/2/9789246503285_ara.pdf

Chinese version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44859/3/9789245503286_chi.pdf

French version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44860/1/9789242503289_fre.pdf

Spanish version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44861/1/9789243503288_spa.pdf

Russian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44859/4/9789244503287_rus.pdf

WHO guidelines on the pharmacological treatment of persisting pain in children with medical illnesses. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2012

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44540/1/9789241548120_Guidelines.pdf

Spanish version:

http://www.who.int/medicines/areas/quality_safety/3PedPainGLs_coverspanish.pdf?ua=1

Ensuring balance in national policies on controlled substances. Guidance for availability and accessibility of controlled medicines. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2011

http://www.who.int/medicines/areas/quality_safety/guide_nocp_sanend/en/

Armenian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44519/2/9789241564175_arm.pdf

Bulgarian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44519/3/9789241564175_bul.pdf

French version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44555/1/9789242564174_fre.pdf

Georgian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44519/5/9789241564175_geo.pdf

Greek version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44519/6/9789241564175_gre.pdf

Hungarian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44519/7/9789241564175_hun.pdf

Khmer version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44519/4/9789241564175_cam.pdf

Polish version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44519/8/9789241564175_pol.pdf

Russian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44519/9/9789241564175_rus.pdf

Serbian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44519/10/9789241564175_scc.pdf

Slovak version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44519/11/9789241564175_slo.pdf

Slovenian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44519/12/9789241564175_slv.pdf

Spanish version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/75837/1/9789243564173_spa.pdf?ua=1

Turkish version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44519/13/9789241564175_tur.pdf

Monitoring and Evaluation

Relevant WHO websites

WHO Global Information System on Resources for the Prevention and Treatment of Substance Use Disorders:

<http://apps.who.int/gho/data/node.main.RSUD?lang=en>

WHO Global Health Estimates:

http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global_burden_disease/en/

Global school-based student Health Survey (GSHS):

<http://www.who.int/chp/gshs/en/>

STEPwise approach to surveillance (STEPS):

<http://www.who.int/chp/steps/en/>

Resources and documents

Health in 2015: from MDGs to SDGs. Mental Health and Substance use chapter. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2015

http://www.who.int/gho/publications/mdgs-sdgs/MDGs-SDGs2015_chapter7.pdf?ua=1

ATLAS-SU: Resources for Treatment and Prevention of Substance Use Disorders. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2010

http://www.who.int/substance_abuse/activities/atlas/en/

Report on the meeting on indicators for monitoring alcohol, drugs and other psychoactive substance use, substance-attributable harm and societal responses, Valencia, Spain, 19-21 October 2009. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2010

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44493/1/9789241500883_eng.pdf

Global health risks. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2009

http://www.who.int/healthinfo/global_burden_disease/GlobalHealthRisks_report_full.pdf?ua=1&ua=1

Russian version:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44203/8/9789244563878_rus.pdf?ua=1

Rapid Assessment of Alcohol and Other Substance Use in Conflict-affected and Displaced Populations: A Field Guide. Geneva, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees/World Health Organization, 2008

http://www.who.int/mental_health/emergencies/unhcr_alc_rapid_assessment.pdf

SEX-RAR Guide: The Rapid Assessment and Response Guide on Psychoactive Substance Use and Sexual Risk Behaviour. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2002

<https://www.unodc.org/documents/hiv-aids/RAR%20sex.%20behaviour%20guide.pdf>

Working With Street Children: Monitoring and Evaluation of a Street Children Project. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2002

<http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/42589/1/924159036X.pdf>

Evaluation of Psychoactive Substance Use Disorder Treatment Workbook Series. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2000

Framework:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66584/1/WHO_MSD_MSB_00.2a.pdf

Planning evaluations:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66584/2/WHO_MSD_MSB_00.2b.pdf

Implementing evaluations:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66584/3/WHO_MSD_MSB_00.2c.pdf

Needs assessment:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66584/4/WHO_MSD_MSB_00.2d.pdf

Process evaluations:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66584/5/WHO_MSD_MSB_00.2e.pdf

Cost evaluations:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66584/6/WHO_MSD_MSB_00.2f.pdf

Client satisfaction evaluations:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66584/7/WHO_MSD_MSB_00.2g.pdf

Outcome evaluations:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66584/8/WHO_MSD_MSB_00.2h.pdf

Economic evaluations:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66584/9/WHO_MSD_MSB_00.2i.pdf

Facilitator's workshop guide:

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66584/10/WHO_MSD_MSB_00.2j.pdf

Guide to Drug Abuse Epidemiology. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2000

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/63850/1/a58352_PartA.pdf



**World Health
Organization**

20, AVENUE APPIA – CH-1211 GENEVA 27 – SWITZERLAND – TEL CENTRAL +41 22 791 2111 – FAX CENTRAL +41 22 791 3111 – www.who.int

**International Guidelines for the Evaluation of Treatment Services and Systems for Psychoactive
Substance Use Disorders. Geneva, World Health Organization, 2000**

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/66633/1/WHO_MSD_MSB_00.5.pdf